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## PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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January 4, 2001

The Commissioner For Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

AND PRINT SYSTEM

## CLAIM TO PRIORITY

Sir:

Applicant hereby claims priority under the International Convention and all rights to which he is entitled under 35 U.S.C. § 119 based upon the following Japanese Priority Applications:

11-186880, filed June 30, 1999.

A certified copy of the priority document is enclosed.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010.

All correspondence should be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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CPW/fdb/gmc

(translation of the front page of the priority document of Japanese Patent Application No.11-186880)

## PATENT OFFICE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT

This is to certify that the annexed is a true copy of the following application as filed with this Office.

JAN 0 8 2001 Technology Center 2600

Date of Application: June 30, 1999

Application Number : Patent Application 11-186880

Applicant(s) : Canon Kabushiki Kaisha

July 21, 2000

Commissioner,

Patent Office

Kouzo OIKAWA

Certification Number 2000-3057072